



PÖYTÄKIRJA

Kokous 4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 15.00–18.30

ja 5. syyskuuta 2024 klo 9.00–12.30

BRYSSEL

4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 15.00–16.00

***** Suljetuin ovin *****

1. Koordinaattoreiden kokous

***** Suljetuin ovin pidetty kokous päättyi *****

* * *

Puheenjohtaja Niclas Herbst avasi kokouksen keskiviikkona 4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 16.12.

4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 16.00–16.15

2. Esityslistan hyväksyminen

Esityslista hyväksyttiin sellaisena kuin se on esitettyinä tässä pöytäkirjassa.

3. Puheenjohtajan ilmoitukset

Puheenjohtaja pyysi jäseniä kiinnittämään huomiota CONT News -uutiskirjeessä esitettyihin tietoihin.

4. Euroopan unionin yleinen talousarvio varainhoitovuodeksi 2025 – kaikki pääluokat
CONT/10/00472
2024/0176(BUD)

Valmistelija:

José Cepeda (S&D)

Vastaava:

BUDG – Victor Negrescu (S&D)
Niclas Herbst (PPE)

DT – PE763.050v01-00

- Kirjeen muodossa annetun lausuntoluonnoksen hyväksyminen

Päätös: Lausuntoluonnos hyväksyttiin äänin 19 puolesta, 5 vastaan ja 3 tyhjää.

(Katso nimenhuutoäänestyksen tulossivu)

4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 16.15–17.15

5. Keskustelu tilintarkastustuomioistuimen presidentin Tony Murphyn ja tilintarkastustuomioistuimen jäsenten Ivana Maletićin ja Jan Gregorin kanssa CONT-valiokunnan ja Euroopan tilintarkastustuomioistuimen yhteistyöstä erityisesti elpymis- ja palautumistukiväliseen valvonnassa ja tarkastuslausumaa varten tehdyssä tarkastuksessa.
CONT/10/00818

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Tony Murphy (tilintarkastustuomioistuimen presidentti), Ivana Maletić (tilintarkastustuomioistuimen jäsen), Jan Gregor (tilintarkastustuomioistuimen jäsen), Dirk Gotnik, José Cepeda, Bert-Jan Ruissen, Virginie Joron, Tomáš Zdechovský, Caterina Chinnici, Eero Heinäluoma, Kinga Kollár

4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 17.15–18.15

6. Tilintarkastustuomioistuimen katsaus 03/2024: Yleiskatsaus kauden 2014–2020 koheesiomenojen varmennuskehiksestä ja virheisiin vaikuttaneista keskeisistä tekijöistä
CONT/10/00819

- Yleiskatsauksen esittely, tilintarkastustuomioistuimen raportoiva jäsen Helga Berger
- Keskustelu aluekehitysvaliokunnan (REGI) kutsuttujen jäsenten kanssa

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Helga Berger (tilintarkastustuomioistuimen jäsen), Raquel García Hermida-van der Walle (REGI), Franck Sébert (komissio, REGIO-EMPL-DAC), Tomáš Zdechovský, Bert-Jan Ruisse, Monika Hohlmeier

Kokous keskeytettiin klo 18.12.

* * *

Kokousta jatkettiin klo 18.20.

4. syyskuuta 2024 klo 18.15–18.30 valiokuntien yhteiskokousmenettely (työjärjestyksen 59 artikla)

Yhdessä budjettivaliokunnan kanssa kokoushuoneessa SPAAK 4B001

7. Unionin yleiseen talousarvioon sovellettavista varainhoitosäännöistä annetun asetuksen (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 muuttaminen

CJ13/10/00186

***I 2022/0125(COD) COM(2022)0184 – C9-0154/2022

Vastaava:

BUDG, CONT

Oikaisu hyväksyttiin ilmoituksella.

Kokous päättyi klo 18.23.

* * *

Puheenjohtaja Niclas Herbst avasi kokouksen klo 9.04.

5. syyskuuta 2024 klo 9.00–9.30

8. Vastuuvapaus 2022: EU:n yleinen talousarvio – Eurooppa-neuvosto ja neuvosto

CONT/10/00445

2023/2131(DEC) COM(2023)0391[03] – C9-0250/2023

Esittelijä:

Jonas Sjöstedt (The Left)

PR – PE761.252v01-00

Vastaava:

CONT

- Mietintöluonnoksen käsittely

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Jonas Sjösted, Carla Tavares, Daniel Freund

5. syyskuuta 2024 klo 9.30–11.30

9. OLAFin vuosikertomus 2023

CONT/10/00820

Esittelijä:

Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE)

- Keskustelu OLAFin pääjohtajan Ville Itälän kanssa

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Ville Itälä (OLAFin pääjohtaja), Daniel Freund, Kinga Kollár, Carla Tavares, Gerben-Jan Meindert Gerbrandy, Caterina Chinnici

10. OLAFin valvontakomitean vuotuinen toimintakertomus 2023
CONT/10/00821

Esittelijä:

Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE)

- Keskustelu OLAFin valvontakomitean puheenjohtajan Teresa Anjinhon kanssa

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Teresa Anjinho (OLAFin valvontakomitean puheenjohtaja), Daniel Freund

11. OLAFin prosessuaalisten takeiden valvojan vuosikertomus 2023
CONT/10/00822

Esittelijä:

Daniel Freund (Verts/ALE)

- Keskustelu prosessuaalisten takeiden valvojan Julia Laffranquen kanssa

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Julia Laffranque (prosessuaalisten takeiden valvoja), Daniel Freund, Monika Hohlmeier, Javier Moreno Sánchez

5. syyskuuta 2024 klo 11.30–12.30

12. EU:n petostentorjunnan rakenteita käsittelevä tutkimus ”EU anti-fraud architecture – the role of EU-level players, how they cooperate and the challenges they face”

CONT/10/00823

- Tutkimuksen esittely ja keskustelu

Puheenvuoron käyttivät: Niclas Herbst, Laura Granito (CSES), Luca Marcolin (CSES), Javier Moreno Sánchez, Caterina Chinnici, Monika Hohlmeier, Titus Poenaru (EPPO), Joanna Krzeminska-Vamvak (OLAF)

13. Muut asiat

14. Seuraava kokous

30. syyskuuta 2024 (Bryssel)

10. lokakuuta 2024 (Strasbourg)

Kokous päättyi klo 11.44.

Result of roll-call votes of Wednesday 4 September 2024

4. General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2025 - all sections

| 19 | + |
|-----------|--|
| PPE | Caterina Chinnici, Esteban González Pons, Dirk Gotink, Niclas Herbst, Monika Hohlmeier, Kinga Kollár, Jacek Protas, Tomáš Zdechovský |
| Renew | Gilles Boyer, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy |
| S&D | José Cepeda, Eero Heinäluoma, Claudiu Manda, Csaba Molnár, Thomas Pellerin-Carlin, Carla Tavares |
| The Left | Jonas Sjöstedt, Pasquale Tridico |
| Verts/ALE | Daniel Freund |

| 5 | - |
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| ESN | Alexander Jungbluth |
| PfE | Tamás Deutsch, Virginie Joron, Ondřej Knotek, Julien Sanchez |

| 3 | 0 |
|-----|-------------------------------|
| ECR | Dick Erixon, Bert-Jan Ruissen |
| NI | Michael von der Schulenburg |

Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALLOIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/
JELENLÉTI ÍV/REGĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/NÄRVAROLISTA**

| |
|---|
| Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezidium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*) |
| Niclas Herbst (PR), Caterina Chinnici (1e VP), Claudiu Manda (3e VP) |
| Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Βουλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/ Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter |
| Gilles Boyer, José Cepeda, Tamás Deutsch, Dick Erixon, Daniel Freund, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Esteban González Pons, Eero Heinäluoma, Monika Hohlmeier, Virginie Joron, Alexander Jungbluth, Ondřej Knotek, Kinga Kollár, Giuseppe Lupo, Csaba Molnár, Jacek Protas, Julien Sanchez, Jonas Sjöstedt, Carla Tavares, Michael von der Schulenburg, Tomáš Zdechovský |
| Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Pötagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter |
| Grzegorz Braun, Dirk Gotink, Andrey Kovatchev, Thomas Pellerin-Carlin, Karlo Ressler, Bert-Jan Ruissen |

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| 216 (7) |
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| 222 (3) |
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| 57 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/ Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Τοčka dnevnoĝ reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan) |
| |

Присъствал на/Presente el/Přítomný dne/Til stede den/Anwesend am/Viibis(id) kohal/Παρόν στις/Present on/Présent le/Nazočni
dana/Presente il/Piedalījās/ Dalyvauja/Jelen volt/Prezenti fi/Aanwezig op/Obecny dnia/Presente em/Prezent/Přítomný dňa/Navzoči
dne/Läsnä/Närvarande den:

- (1) 4.9.2024
(2) 5.9.2024

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač-Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/ Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Gabriella Gerzsenyi, Elena Nevado del Campo, Lubica Karvasova, Raquel Garcia Hermida Van der Walle, Laura Granito (CSES), Luca Marcolin (CSES), Titus Poenaru (EPP0)

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nöukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Ville Itälä, Teresa Anjinho, Julia Laffranque, Joanna Krzeminska Vamvaka, Franck Seber

Други институции и органи/Otras instituciones y organismos/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner og organer/Andere Organe und Einrichtungen/Muud institutsioonid ja organid/Λοιπά θεσμικά όργανα και οργανισμοί/Other institutions and bodies/Autres institutions et organes/Druge institucije i tijela/Altre istituzioni e altri organi/Citas iestādes un struktūras/Kitos institucijos ir įstaigos/Más intézmények és szervek/Istituzjonijiet u korpi oħra/Andere instellingen en organen/Inne instytucje i organy/Outras instituições e outros órgãos/Alte instituții și organe/Iné inštitúcie a orgány/Muut toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ

ECA

Tony Murphy, Ivana Maletic, Jan Gregor, Helga Berger

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Sekretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Segretarjat gruppi politiçi/Fractiesekretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Sekretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliitisten ryhmien sihteeristö/De politiska grupernas sekretariat | |
| PPE | Virginia Dila, Horia Cercel |
| S&D | Jaime de Frutos |
| PfE | |
| ECR | Ekaterina Frolova, Kamila Wrzesinska |
| Renew | Stephanie Antoine-Jacquemard |
| Verts/ALE | Robert Godiva, Aleksandra Podsadowska |
| The Left | Elisa Reschini, Stamatia Chatzimarkou |
| ESN | |
| NI | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinet des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantslei/Γραφείο του Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli | |
| | |
| Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinet des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli | |
| | |
| Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat | |
| DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG EPRS DG COMM DG PART DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG LINC DG FINS DG ITEC DG SAFE Legal Service | Monika Strasser (Director for Budgetary Affairs), Evelyn Waldherr (Head of Unit) |

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
- (VP) = Заместник-председател/Vicepresidente/Místopředseda/Næstformand/Stellvertretender Vorsitzender/Aseesimees/Αντιπρόεδρος/
Vice-Chair/Potpredsjednik/Vice-Président/Potpredsjednik/Priekšsēdētāja vietnieks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/ Viči
'Chairman'/Ondervoorzitter/Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Presidente/Vicepreşedinte/Podpredseda/Podpredsednik/
Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem/Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Βουλευτής/Member/Membre/Član/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/
Membru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Dužnosnik/
Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/UrządNIK/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Úradnik/Virkamies/
Tjänsteman

CONT COORDINATORS' MEETING

Wednesday, 4 September 2024

15.00 - 16.00

Room: SPINELLI 5E2 (Brussels)

Summary of recommendations

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|--|----|
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Coordinators present:

EPP: Tomáš Zdechovský
S&D: Carla Tavares
Pfe: Tamás Deutsch
ECR: Dick Erixon, replacing Joachim Stanislaw Brudzinski
Renew: absent, written contribution provided by Olivier Chastel
Verts/ALE: Daniel Freund
The Left: Jonas Sjöstedt
ESN: Alexander Jungbluth

Items for decision

1. *Designation of a CONT Member to be proposed by the EP President to the Board of the Voluntary Pension Fund (VPF)*

By letter of 26 July 2024 the EP President asked the CONT Chair to designate a Member of CONT whom she could propose as one of three directors in the Board of the Members of the Voluntary Pension Fund (VPF). The Board consists of ten members elected by the General Meeting for one year and is responsible for the (day-to-day) administration of the VPF. Three of these members are proposed by the EP President after consulting the Bureau. The closing date for nominations has been set on 13 September 2024.

Decision:

Coordinators decided:

- that it would not be appropriate for the CONT Committee to designate a CONT Member as director for the VPF given the risk of potential conflicts of interests;
- to task the Secretariat to draft a letter of reply to the President.

2. *Preparations for the confirmation hearings of Commissioner designates*

The CCC will soon propose the division of responsibilities for the confirmation hearings between committees and the timeline for these hearings. After that, the time to adopt written question will be very short.

Assuming that the future Commissioner on budgets will cover both budgets and budgetary discharge, as in the past mandate, CONT would have a joint hearing with BUDG. This means that CONT should prepare three written questions in view of a quick endorsement later in September.

CONT may also be invited to one or several other hearings, in which case it would have the right to one question per hearing.

In order to prepare the hearing at best and to maximise the commitments of the incoming Commissioner, political groups should coordinate their written and oral questions as much as possible in view of covering all subjects and avoiding duplications.

Decision:

Coordinators had a first exchange on possible issues to be covered by the questions, which the Secretariat took note of.

Coordinators decided:

- to further coordinate among them written and oral questions and to send contributions for the expected three written questions to the Secretariat.

The deadline for sending written contributions for the three written questions to the Secretariat is Friday 13 September (cob).

3. Contribution to the budgetary procedure 2025

The opinion in form of a letter on the CONT position for the budgetary procedure 2025 has been agreed in a written procedure in view of the vote in the CONT Committee on 4 September, together with the budgetary amendments tabled by the Members of the CONT Committee.

Decision:

Coordinators approved the opinion in form of a letter.

4. ECA special reports and reviews

4.1. System for allocation of ECA special reports and reviews for the 10th term

Selection of Special Reports for presentation in CONT

Distribution of special reports and reviews among groups and Members

Decision:

This point was postponed to the next Coordinators meeting on 30 September.

4.2. Handling of the back-log of ECA special reports since March 2024 and forward planning up to the third quarter of 2024

Decision:

Coordinators decided to have the following Special Reports presented in CONT (the list contains the back-log of reports published by ECA since March 2024 and the forward planning up to the third quarter of 2024):

- SR 5/2024 on EU Transparency Register

- SR 6/2024 on the Facility for Refugees in Turkey (jointly with AFET).
- SR 7/2024 on the Commission's system for recovering irregular expenditure.
- SR 13/2024 on RRF absorption
- SR 14/2024 on Green transition in the RRF, expected to be published on 11 September
- SR on EUTF for Africa, expected to be published on 25 September
- SR on Common Agricultural Policy Plans, expected to be published on 30 September
- SR on climate adaptation in the EU, expected to be published on 16 October

4.3. Working documents on ECA special reports

The Secretariat recommends to replace the earlier practice of working documents by “background briefings” for the CONT Members ahead of the presentation of a special report in a CONT committee meeting. Such briefing papers might also contain a set of recommendations from the rapporteur if deemed appropriate by the rapporteur. Important suggestions can always be transposed into amendments to the respective reports.

Decision:

Coordinators endorsed the proposal to replace the former working documents on special reports by background briefings.

5. System for allocation of ECA nominations in the 10th term

Coordinators wished to continue to use the d'Hondt system to allocate the rapporteurship for the procedure for the nomination of designated ECA Members.

Based on experiences from last year and in line with the recommendations in the legacy letter, the Secretariat suggested to add two principles to the system of allocation of rapporteurship in the nomination procedure:

- In case a nominee is a current or former member of the EP, a national parliament or a national government, the rapporteur cannot come from the same political group as the nominee. In such cases there will be a switch with the following group in the order of the d'Hondt list.
- Groups cannot appoint rapporteurs from the same Member State as the nominee.

Decision:

Coordinators decided:

- to continue the distribution of rapporteurship for ECA nominations based on the D'Hondt system;
- to approve the two proposed new principles for allocation of rapporteurships with the addition that they would always be able to take an *ad-hoc* decision if required by a specific situation.

6. *System for allocation of legislative and non-legislative reports and opinions during the 10th term - postponed*

Decision:

The point was postponed to the next Coordinators meeting on 30 September.

7. *Appointing standing rapporteurs for scrutiny related files*

Decision:

The point was postponed to the next Coordinators meeting on 30 September.

8. *Annual meeting with European Court of Auditors*

This year's annual meeting between CONT and ECA is proposed to take place in Brussels on Tuesday 5 November 2024 from 10:30 to 12:30, possibly followed by a standing lunch/reception.

A more detailed program including topics for discussion will be submitted to Coordinators for decision at a later stage.

Decision:

Coordinators decided to hold this year's annual meeting with ECA on Tuesday 5 November 2024 in the morning in Brussels.

9. *Meetings with committees of the Ukrainian Parliament (the Verkhovna Rada)*

After Russia started the war of aggression against Ukraine in 2022, the EP has expanded its cooperation and connections with the Ukrainian Parliament, the Verkhovna Rada. The CONT Committee has established a regular cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada's Committees on Budgets and on Anti-Corruption.

Coordinators should decide in due time ahead of each joint meeting on the timing and topics for discussion based a proposal by the secretariat.

Decision:

Coordinators decided:

- to continue to hold joint meetings with the Committee on Budgets and the Committee on Anti-Corruption of the Ukrainian Parliament two to three times per year and
- to propose to hold the next joint meeting with the two Verkhovna Rada committees participating remotely on Thursday 05 December (AM) – exact timing tbc.

10. *CONT working methods- based on the outcome of the IPOL business plan*

Coordinators discussed the proposed working methods of the CONT Committee (*Annex VI*). Many of the issues addressed are subject to rules and guidelines by the Governing Bodies of the Parliament (Conference of Presidents, Bureau and Conference of Committee Chairs).

Decision:

The point was postponed to the next Coordinators meeting on 30 September.

Coordinators tasked the Secretariat to elaborate the working methods further with regard to deadlines for votes and admissibility of amendments.

11. *Parliamentary activities*

11.1. INI reports

In the first half of the legislature, each parliamentary committee can simultaneously draft up to six own initiative reports.

Coordinators take the initial decision on the topic of an own-initiative report. The report is allocated to a group (and rapporteur), which is normally the group proposing the subject for the report. The group will pay a price for the report according to system decided by the Coordinators

The CCC handles INI requests systematically at the monthly meetings in Strasbourg.

CONT has already requested the authorisation to draw up the INI reports on the EIB and the PIF. Only the EIB INI report falls under the quota and therefore CONT has still five INI slots available.

11.2. Public Hearings

Like for INI reports, each Committee can decide to organise Public Hearings on a given subject, within a budgetary framework, which allows the Committee to invite up to 16 experts every year. If an expert participates from abroad via video link there are typically no costs associated.

The approval process for public hearings is very similar to the one for INI reports. For Public Hearings, the Bureau is however the authorising body because there might be costs associated.

During the last term, there was no rapporteur for Public Hearings and therefore, no price to be paid by groups who suggest a subject for a Public Hearing.

Coordinators might always decide *ad hoc* that an issue deserves to be handled at a Public Hearing in the Committee. The minimum time period for the organisation of a Public Hearing from a decision of Coordinators to authorisation by the Bureau can be estimated to amount to two to three months.

11.3. Interparliamentary Committee Meetings (ICMs)

Each Committees can organise Interparliamentary Committee Meetings (ICMs) where representatives from national parliaments are invited to Brussels to discuss a subject of

common interest.

The CCC Secretariat has announced the following deadlines for requesting such activities:

- for the remainder of 2024 (2nd half of 2004) by 10 September 2024 noon so that the draft programme can be endorsed by the CCC at its meeting of 17 September 2024;
- for the first half of 2025 by 10 October 2024, so that the draft programme can be endorsed by the CCC at its meeting of 22 October 2024.

11.4. Missions

Each Committee can organise missions outside the EP's three places of work in connection to its activities. The annual quota for CONT is 25 Members. Missions should in principle take place during the "*turquoise*" weeks.

The CCC Secretariat typically organises call for requests for missions two times per year. The Secretariat will put the item on the agenda for the Coordinators when the CCC Secretariat makes a call for missions for the first half of 2025.

Decision:

Coordinators approved that:

- Groups will be asked to send proposals for own initiative (INI) reports to the Secretariat before the Coordinator's meeting in December;
- Groups will be asked to send proposals for Public Hearings during January next year with a view to deciding in February on possible Public Hearings for the remainder of the period before the summer break 2025;
- the CONT Committee will not organise an ICM during the second part of 2024 and that groups are asked to send proposals for ICMs for the first half of 2025 to the Secretariat before 20 September with a view of taking a decision on the Coordinator's meeting on 30 September;
- The Secretariat will ask groups to send proposals for missions during the first half of 2025 and put the item on the agenda for the Coordinators when the CCC Secretariat makes a call for mission for the first half of 2025.

12. Appointment of Member of the Gender mainstreaming network

By letter of 26 July, the Chair of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality asked the Chairs of the other Committees in Parliament to appoint Members responsible for gender mainstreaming.

In accordance with the EP Resolution of 13 March 2003 on gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament, each parliamentary committee appoints one of its Members (and a substitute Member) as responsible for Gender Mainstreaming, as part of the Network of Members in charge of Gender Mainstreaming (GMN) led by the FEMM committee. The

network also meets at staff level.

Decision:

The point was postponed to the next Coordinators meeting on 30 September.

Items for information

13. *State of play of appointments on CONT files*

- [Work in progress document](#)
- [Overview of the points](#)

14. *Any other business*

15. *Date of next Coordinators meeting*

- 30 September 2024

NEWSLETTER

COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2024

15:00 - 16.00 coordinators' meeting (room SPINELLI (5E-2)),
16:00 - 18:15 (room SPINELLI (5E-2)) and
18:15 - 18:30 joint committee procedure (Rule 59) (room SPAAK (4B001))

THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2024

9:00 - 12:30 (room SPINELLI (5E-2))

BRUSSELS, SPINELLI 5E2 AND SPAAK 4B001

Wednesday, 4 September 2024, 15:00-16:00

1. COORDINATOR'S MEETING

*** *In camera* ***

Wednesday, 4 September 2024, 16:00 – 16:15

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair draws attention to the following points:

Interpretation was requested in the following languages:

DE EN FR IT EL ES PT SV CS HU PL and RO

Webstreaming

The meeting will be webstreamed and can be followed live via the [CONT webpage](#).

Adoption of Coordinators' recommendations

The Summary of Coordinators' recommendations from the first Coordinator's meeting on 24 July 2024 was circulated to Members on 1 August 2024.

If no objections are received before the end of the meeting, these recommendations will be deemed approved.

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4. GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2025 - ALL SECTIONS

CONT/10/00472

[2024/0176\(BUD\)](#)



Rapporteur:

[José Cepeda](#) (S&D)

Administrator:

Hans Stander

As every committee of the European Parliament, the CONT Committee has the opportunity to table an opinion on the General Budget of the European Union for the financial year ahead. For 2025, the budgetary procedure in the CONT Committee has been reinforced by encouraging the Members to also table budgetary amendments. The opinion in form of a letter is meant to provide information supporting these amendments. The aim is to strengthen the link between the discharge procedure on the one hand, and the budgetary procedure on the other.

Since the S&D group had the Rapporteurship for the discharge of the financial year 2022, which was completed in April 2024, the S&D group was assigned also the rapporteurship for the budgetary procedure 2025, which was taken up by Mr Cepeda.

The Members of the CONT Committee have tabled two budgetary amendments that will be voted, as will be the opinion in form of a letter.

PR – PE751.827v01-00

Wednesday, 4 September 2024, 16:15 – 17:15

5. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH ECA PRESIDENT TONY MURPHY AND ECA MEMBERS IVANA MALETIĆ AND JAN GREGOR ON THE COOPERATION BETWEEN CONT COMMITTEE AND EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE SCRUTINY OF RRF AND ON THE STATEMENT OF ASSURANCE AUDIT

CONT/10/00818



ECA is a key institutional partner for the CONT Committee. The ECA reports - both the Annual Reports and special reports - constitute an essential source of information on the implementation of the EU budget.

ECA President, Mr Tony Murphy has offered to present the work of the ECA for the new CONT Committee at the CONT meeting of

4 September. In addition, ECA Members Ms Ivana Maletić and Mr Jan Gregor will participate in this exchange of views. Mr Murphy will give a general introduction and overview of the work of ECA while Mr Gregor is expected to focus on the Statement of Assurance audit and Ms Maletic will focus on the challenges of the audits on the Recovery and Resilience Facility.

The three ECA representatives will give their introductions, which in total is expected to last around 20 minutes followed by a possibility for CONT Members to give comments and pose questions.



Wednesday, 4 September 2022, 17:15 – 18:15

6. ECA REVIEW 03/2024: AN OVERVIEW OF THE ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK AND THE KEY FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO ERRORS IN 2014-2020 COHESION SPENDING

CONT/10/00819

Presentation of the review by reporting ECA Member Helga Berger

Exchange of views with invited Members from the Committee on Regional Development (REGI)

Administrator: Benoît Lefort

The review explains that cohesion policy, a major EU spending area, has, over the years, witnessed the largest number of spending errors in the EU budget. The estimated level of error is not a measure of fraud, inefficiency or waste: it is an estimate of the amount of money that was not used in compliance with EU and national rules. Looking at the multi-year budget cycles of 2007-2013 and 2014-2020, the overall level of error in Cohesion spending fell from 6% to 4.8%, but each year remained above the 2% threshold set in the rules, with a peak of 6.7% in 2022.



In a pyramid of checks, the first line of defence in ensuring proper spending are the controls carried out by the Member States' managing authorities, which suffer from shortcomings and could have prevented more than a third of the errors the Court found between 2017 and 2022.

The second line of defence is the controls by the Member States' own audit bodies, where the Court again found weaknesses of varying nature and seriousness – this was the case for the work of 40 out of 43 of the audit bodies under review.

The Commission – as the third line of defence – bases its assessments on only limited reliable controls performed nationally, while some national authorities are more effective than others at detecting erroneous spending. At the same time, the Commission's own tools for detecting, preventing or correcting errors display a number of weaknesses. As its desk checks are not designed to detect erroneous spending, the Commission could achieve greater impact with more compliance audits in the field. The EU's executive can also use financial corrections for serious control deficiencies in order to remedy the negative impact of erroneous spending on the EU budget, but these have so far not resulted in a direct loss of funding for the Member State concerned. Instead, Member States have been allowed to re-use these corrections for additional projects. Not only does this limit their deterrent effect, but it also fails to provide an incentive for Member States to improve their systems and so avoid errors from the outset.

The Court concludes that there is room for both the Commission and Member States to improve how they perform their checks on Cohesion spending, and warns that the risk of irregular spending remains high. The Court emphasises that the overlap between multi-year spending periods and the EU Covid recovery funds is putting additional pressure on some Member States to ensure that money is spent by the book.

It is proposed that the presentation of the ECA review proceeds as follows:

- CONT Chair will make initial remarks;
- The ECA Member Helga Berger will present the review;
- The European Commission's representative will make introductory remarks;
- CONT and invited REGI Members will make remarks and put questions to the Court's Member and the Commission's representatives;
- The ECA and the European Commission representatives will reply to the questions posed;
- CONT Chair will make concluding remarks.

Wednesday, 4 September 2024, 18:15 – 18:30

- change of meeting room -> SPAAK 4B001

7. AMENDING REGULATION (EU, EURATOM) 2018/1046 ON THE FINANCIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO THE GENERAL BUDGET OF THE UNION

CJ13/10/00186

Endorsement of the verified text (CORRIGENDUM procedure)



Rapporteurs: [Monika Hohlmeier](#) (EPP), [Nils Usakovs](#) (S&D)

Administrators: Rupert Wilkinson (BUDG), Marius Cobianu (CONT)

On 14 March 2024, the Parliament's plenary adopted at first reading the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the union (recast).

However, there was no time to finish the technical legal-linguistic verification of all language versions before the last plenary session of the previous legislature. That has since been done, with no changes of a substantive nature, and the verified text is now subject to the corrigendum procedure pursuant to Rule 251 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure (RoP).

According to that procedure, the verified text needs to be examined and endorsed by the committee responsible (BUDG-CONT joint committee meeting on 4 September 2024 in Brussels). It will then be submitted to and announced in plenary, and approved by Parliament (part-session in September 2024 in Strasbourg).

In the event that during the joint meeting there are objections by a political group or a group of Members reaching at least the low threshold (4 Members), it will be necessary to put the matter to the vote by a simple majority.

Prior to the meeting on 4 September, the secretariat has sent by email the verified text to all BUDG-CONT Members.

Thursday, 5 September 2024, 9:00 – 9:30

8. 2022 DISCHARGE: GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EU - EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND COUNCIL

CONT/10/00445

[2023/2131\(DEC\)](#)

Consideration of draft report

Deadline for tabling amendments: 6 September 2024, 12.00



Rapporteur: [Jonas Sjöstedt](#) (The Left)

Administrator: Kaare Barslev

PR – PE761.252v01-00

Shadow Rapporteurs: Csaba Molnár (S&D),

On 23 April 2024, the Plenary decided to postpone discharge once more for the Council in the light of the regrettable lack of information and refusal to cooperate with the Parliament and thereby prevent Parliament from taking an informed decision on the granting of discharge.

In line with the report from last year's discharge procedure, the second draft report has deliberately been kept short. The text in the resolution describes the status for the discharge procedure in relation to the Council and the European Council, it recalls the regulatory background and the well-established and respected practice of the European Parliament on granting discharge to all the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies for their administrative expenditure and the continued refusal by Council to cooperate with Parliament on the discharge procedure, thereby making it impossible for Parliament to grant discharge.

The report refers to the first discharge report from April on other elements relevant for the discharge procedure but where there is nothing new to add since April.

CONT Timetable

| Event | Body | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| Consideration of draft report | CONT | 5 September 2024 |
| Deadline for AMs | CONT | 6 September 2024 12:00 |
| Vote | CONT | 30 September 2024 |
| Vote | Plenary | October II 2024 |

Thursday, 5 September 2024, 9:30 – 11:30

9. OLAF ANNUAL REPORT 2023

CONT/10/00820

Exchange of views with OLAF Director-General, Ville Itälä



Rapporteur:

(Verts/ALE)

[Daniel Freund](#)

Administrator:

Diego Rasetti

As for every year, the 2023 report presents an overview of the investigative results and related OLAF activities regarding fraud prevention and anti-fraud policy. It describes some cases of serious misconducts affecting both the regular expenditure and the collection of revenues, including irregularities, misuses of resources, collusion and overpricing in procurement, double funding (in particular in third countries), conflict of interest, evasion of customs duties, smuggling and counterfeiting.

For OLAF, 2023 has been a year marked by important beginnings: OLAF started first investigations into Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), under which the EU had distributed about EUR 300 billion funding to Member States. Serious cases of conflict of interests were detected in the evaluation of a call in the framework of the RRF funding, whose scope was to improve connectivity between universities for which weaknesses were detected also in the guidance for the evaluators to ensure impartial and objective procedures.

In the meantime, after the illegal Russian aggression of Ukraine, the EU budget had enabled EUR 19.5 billion in short-term assistance, including an unprecedented support package of EUR 18 billion in concessional loans. OLAF had enhanced its cooperation with the Ukrainian authorities and its efforts allowed investigating into alleged irregularities and potential fraud affecting EU funds linked to a cross-border cooperation project. Additionally, OLAF continued providing training for Ukrainian anti-fraud authorities and by working with Member States to help detect and investigate attempts to circumvent EU sanctions against Russia and Belarus.

In 2023, trends from previous years were confirmed: more fraud and irregularities were committed digitally and fraudsters increasingly abused customs transit procedures by artificially creating cross-border situations and undervaluing goods. OLAF report confirms that complex frauds take place online and across multiple jurisdictions, with fraudsters quickly moving across borders, relocating their activities, breaking them up in tiny pieces that make it difficult for national authorities to detect and to tackle. The rise of the digital usage across the world, and in particular since the COVID-19 pandemic, goes together with intensified recurrence of crimes perpetrated digitally, requiring OLAF's analysts sifting through thousands of pieces of data to help join the dots to solve the crime.

Looking at anti-fraud policy, OLAF coordinated the new action plan of the Commission's Anti-Fraud Strategy in 2023. In the meantime, OLAF's network expanded as well: new agreements were signed in 2023 with authorities in the U.S., in Ukraine, and with the World Bank Group. OLAF emphasises its predisposition to cooperation and coordination with other authorities as one of its added values. Indeed, in 2023 the synchronised actions of the European Public Prosecutor's Office and OLAF was expected to result in increasingly tangible outcomes.

As every year, the debate in CONT, inspired by the observations contained in the OLAF Report and in other related documents (such as the OLAF Annual Activity Report to the College of Commissioners, representing the main instrument of management accountability within the Commission) ideally aims at feeding a wider analysis of the Anti-Fraud Architecture, of which OLAF is one of the pillars. It ultimately flows into the INI report on the protection of the Union's financial interests and provides valuable information for the discharge procedure. Starting from 2021, the exchange of views on OLAF Report is complemented by the drafting of a working document, which consolidates the outcome of the debate with a view to provide continuity in the analysis and to offer terms of reference for future discussions on the matters at a stake. The working document will cover the three 2023 annual reports from OLAF, OLAF Supervisory Committee and OLAF Controller of procedural rights.

10. THE OLAF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2023

CONT/10/00821

Exchange of views with the Chair of the Supervisory Committee, Teresa Anjinho



Rapporteur:
(Verts/ALE)

[Daniel Freund](#)

Administrator:

Diego Rasetti

In 2023, the completely renewed Supervisory Committee worked at full capacity following a period of readjustment after the Supervisory Committee's renewal in 2022. The Rapporteur has duly noted that the newly established Committee perpetuates the spirit of mutual trust and sincere cooperation with OLAF management. It is appreciated that frank exchanges between OLAF and its Supervisory Committee will result in a beneficial enhancement of OLAF investigative actions.

Against this background, the Chair of the Supervisory Committee presents in CONT the activities carried out in 2023 pursuing the mission to monitor OLAF investigative activity. Such action takes the form of opinions, recommendations and observations addressed to the Director-General to assist him in the discharge of his responsibilities.

In 2023, as well as in 2022, only the opinion on OLAF preliminary budget was formally adopted (Opinion 1/2023); another one, on the complementary investigation of OLAF and the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO), was adopted as a draft in December 2023 and formally adopted in February 2024, but it will be included in today's exchange, to allow a better understanding of OLAF's evolving cooperation with the EPPO.

Opinion 1/2023 adopted in May 2023 on OLAF's preliminary budget for 2024, points out the importance of adequate human resources for OLAF to maintain a high level of performance. While it considers the preliminary budget to be in line with its reported needs, it expresses its full support for OLAF's request for additional posts. The Opinion deems this additional resources needed in consideration of the new strategic tasks assigned to OLAF, such as investigations and operational support to Member States concerning the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the operational cooperation with the EPPO, the handling of complaints submitted to the Controller of procedural guarantees, and OLAF's expected involvement in the long-term reconstruction efforts to rebuild Ukraine.

Supervisory Committee started in July 2023 an analysis encompassing all the complementary investigations opened by OLAF since the start of the EPPO's activities. Based on a list of 70 complementary investigations carried out by OLAF since when the EPPO became operational, the Committee came to the conclusion that this mechanism has so far worked as it should, yielding promising results for the future. Both EPPO and OLAF are commended for their efforts to make this new mechanism a success in the fight against fraud.

Finally, in November 2023, the Director-General of OLAF formally requested the Committee for its observations on the new Guidelines on Investigation Procedures (GIPs) to be adopted in 2024. These guidelines are the main working tools for the Office and needed a substantial modification to take stock of all the developments that have taken place within the Anti Fraud Architecture, having specific reference to the establishment of, and the cooperation with, the EPPO. Unfortunately, the Opinion is not yet formally adopted.

About the duration of OLAF investigation, the annual monitoring activity did not provide any observation or remark, giving no follow-up to previous year's remark on the on-going monitoring and examination of the selected cases (*"The Committee expects that, in the course of 2023, it will therefore develop a much clearer understanding of the kind of problems and issues that account for the long duration of some OLAF investigations"*).

The relevant outcome of the debate will be integrated in a working document, drafted with a view to provide continuity in the analysis and to offer terms of reference for future discussions on the matters at a stake. The Working Document will cover the three annual reports from OLAF, OLAF Supervisory Committee and OLAF Controller of procedural rights.

11. THE OLAF PROCEDURAL GUARANTEES CONTROLLER ANNUAL REPORT 2023

CONT/10/00822

Exchange of views with the Controller of procedural guarantees, Julia Laffranque



Rapporteur:
(Verts/ALE)

[Daniel Freund](#)

Administrator:

Diego Rasetti

This is the second annual report of the Controller of procedural guarantees. In May 2022, in fact, the Commission proceeded to the appointment of Ms. Laffranque (judge at the Supreme Court of Estonia and former judge at the European Court of Human Rights) as the first Controller of procedural guarantees. She took up office in September 2022 in a completely new function, established by the amended OLAF Regulation entrusting her to handle complaints by “persons concerned” (that is, by persons of interest for OLAF investigations) about OLAF’s compliance with procedural guarantees, alleged infringements of the rules applicable to OLAF investigations and fundamental rights.

Until the creation of the post of Controller, people being investigated by OLAF had no possibility to complain about OLAF’s handling of the investigation, other than by making a complaint to the European Ombudsman for maladministration or by trying to trigger the Commission’s non-contractual liability under very strict conditions. Currently, the possibility to lodge a complaint with the Controller not only represents an effective remedy for persons concerned, but also increases the transparency of OLAF’s activities and provides additional guarantee that OLAF investigations into possible fraud are conducted in full compliance with fundamental rights and procedural rules, enhancing in such a way accountability of the Institutions, and the confidence of taxpayers into the investigative function.

In 2023, 17 new complaints were submitted by natural and legal persons. These add up to those presented in the first few months of her activity (between October 2022 and December 2022), when the Controller received 14 complaints, out of which 13 were already pending before OLAF in anticipation of her appointment. By the end of 2022, the Controller had closed 6 of these complaints, other 8 were decided in 2023. In 2023 the Controller completed also her assessment for 14 out of the 17 presented on the same year, and the remaining 3 (submitted shortly before the end of the year) were decided in early 2024. It is interesting to note that, in most cases, the complainants invoked breaches of their procedural guarantees established by the OLAF Regulation and of their fundamental rights under the Charter of Fundamental Rights. In particular (i) the right to be heard and the effective exercise of their right to submit observations on facts depicted by the investigators and concerning them; (ii) the right to be informed about the existing investigation; (iii) breaches of the principles of fairness, objectivity and impartiality in the conduct of investigations; (iv) the language regime of the investigations and (v) rules applicable to OLAF investigations, in particular on-the-spot checks and digital forensic operations.

The Controller is entrusted with the assessment of the complaints in an adversarial procedure but, at the same time, it cannot interfere with the conduct of the OLAF investigation under way. This very sensitive function, together with the increasing number of complaints received and the complexity of the legal issues involved, offer a very important angle and an essential contribution in understanding the effectiveness of the current Union’s anti-fraud architecture.

The relevant outcome of the debate in CONT will be integrated in a working document, drafted with a view to provide continuity in the analysis and to offer terms of reference for future discussions on the matters at a stake. The Working Document will cover the three annual reports from OLAF, OLAF Supervisory Committee and OLAF Controller of procedural rights.

Thursday, 5 September 2024, 11:30 – 12:30

12. STUDY ON "EU ANTI-FRAUD ARCHITECTURE – THE ROLE OF EU-LEVEL PLAYERS, HOW THEY COOPERATE AND THE CHALLENGES THEY FACE"

CONT/10/00823

Presentation of the study by the authors followed by an exchange of views

The purpose of this study is to provide the European Parliament's Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT Committee) with an overview of the structure and functioning of the architecture of components set up to tackle fraud against the EU's financial interests – referred to as the EU's anti-fraud architecture (AFA). Specifically, the study describes the composition, roles and responsibilities of the organisations involved, as well as their governance structures and forms of cooperation and coordination.

On this basis, the study intends identifying potential risks and challenges related to the design and functioning of the architecture which can suggest further actions to improve its effectiveness and efficiency, also taking into account the evolving nature of fraud. It places a particular focus on the current, and possible future, role of the European Parliament.

The main EU AFA components involved in this analysis are EPPO, OLAF, Eurojust, Europol, the European Commission, the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and in particular the CONT Committee, the European Court of Auditors, the European Ombudsman, the European Investment Bank. Representatives of these entities have been invited to the presentation of the study.

The current architecture is a complex system made up of various components created at different times and with different scopes and tasks, resulting in a "patchwork construction". The complexity of the system reflects the complexity of the tasks assigned to the involved entities and it may contribute to a certain lack of clarity about the roles and responsibilities of the different components within the process of fighting fraud as a whole. This process, in fact, encompasses preventing, detecting, investigating and prosecuting, imposing sanctions and recovering the mismanaged resources, enhancing deterrence. Additionally, diverging anti-fraud approaches at national level, inconsistent reporting practices, incomplete participation in the EPPO by some Member States and varying levels of implementation of the PIF Directive, together with the new types of EU funding instruments established in recent years, result in a current set-up which might not be impervious to duplications, overlaps and gaps in the actions of its components.

The study concerns an issue of key importance to the European Parliament -and the CONT Committee in particular- as illustrated by the resolutions passed across the years emphasising not only the essential role of the protection of the EU's financial interests and of the fight against fraud and mismanagement of resources, but also the expectation that the AFA acts as a whole, and that its results are bigger than the sum of its components. Precisely because of its nature and setup, the current system might put more emphasis on the individual components of the architecture, and how their roles and tasks interconnect, rather than on the system as a whole and the need for a more rounded understanding and assessment of its operations.

Against an overall positive outcome of the analysis, 9 recommendations/suggestions are proposed. While a clear finding of the research is that the EU AFA is made up of components that cooperate and coordinate with each other, this cooperation and coordination seems to be designed and implemented primarily -if not solely- on a bilateral basis, suggesting that the architecture would seem lacking in its current configuration a way to bring all the entities together to discuss challenges, priorities and future actions.

This study represents also a preparatory step to the workshop, currently planned for spring 2025, which will ideally gather the same entities contributing to the study, to discuss practical cases where the AFA added value has become tangible and to identify possible way forward to enhance its effectiveness and efficiency.

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14. NEXT MEETINGS

- 30 September 2024 (Brussels)
- 10 October 2024 (Strasbourg)

PAPERLESS PROGRAMME (INTERNAL USERS ONLY)

Access CONT committee meeting documents on [eMeeting](#) or any CONT committee information on [eCommittee](#)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the [CONT Secretariat](#) or visit the [website](#) of the CONT committee

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Briefing [“Analysis of the 100 largest recipients of RRF funds per Member State”](#)
Briefing [“EU assistance to Ukraine and scrutiny of the EU financing provided”](#)
Study [“Lessons learned from the implementation of crisis response tools at EU level” \(Part 1\)](#)
Study [“The future of digitalisation of budgetary control”](#)
At a Glance [“Nomination for a Member of the European Court of Auditors: Italy”](#)
Workshop Proceedings [“Preventing EU funds from reaching sanctioned individuals or entities”](#)
Study [“Due Diligence in EU Institutions' Own-Account Procurement: Rules and Practices”](#)
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Briefing [“Nominations for Members of the European Court of Auditors: Denmark, Spain and Ireland”](#)
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At a Glance [“Nominations for Members of the European Court of Auditors: Slovakia”](#)
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Briefing [“Sponsorships of EU Presidencies: stocktaking and perspectives”](#)

BUDG

Study [“The history of the EU budget” \(Update\) — Other language versions](#)
Briefing [“The European Parliament and the CFSP Budget - The case of the Rapid Deployment Capacity”](#)
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Briefing [“Gender budgeting in the Member States”](#)
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Study [“Options for a stronger and more agile EU budget”](#)
Briefing [“Ukraine: Financing of reconstruction and the role of the EU budget”](#)
Briefing [“Budgetary aspects of EU defence policy”](#)
In-Depth Analysis [“Recovery and Resilience Dialogue with the European Commission”](#)
Briefing [“EU Financial assistance to Africa and Latin America 2021-2027”](#)
Briefing [“Human and Financial Resources in Decentralised EU Agencies”](#)
In-Depth Analysis [“The rising cost of European Union borrowing and what to do about it”](#)
Briefing [“Statistical own resources: Examples of the gender pay gap and food waste”](#)

At a Glance [“The tools for protecting the EU budget from breaches of the rule of law: the Conditionality Regulation in context”](#)
Briefing [“Financial impact of the war in Ukraine: current and future challenges for the EU budget”](#)

FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

BUDG

Study "The impacts of recent inflation developments on the EU finances" (Part 2)
Study "Performance framework for the EU budget" (Part 2)
Study "Mapping the current structure and discovering the potential of 'other revenue' "
Study "Adapting the EU budget to make it fit for purpose for future enlargements"
Study "Contingent liabilities for the EU budget: an updated appraisal"

CONT

Study "The Financial transparency system - How to improve liability"
Study "EU anti-fraud architecture - the role of EU-level players, how they cooperate and the challenges they face"
Study "Lessons learned from the implementation of crisis response tools at EU level" (Part 2)
Study "Performance based Instruments: possible improvements in their design"
Study "Methods in the European Court of Auditors and the Commission: the estimated level of error vs estimated risk at payment/risk at closure"

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

CONT

Workshop "EU anti-fraud architecture - the role of EU-level players, how they cooperate and the challenges they face"
(January 2025 tbc)

Policy Department for Budgetary Affairs - poldep-budg@ep.europa.eu

Policy Department Webpage: <https://poldepnet.in.ep.europa.eu/home/budgetary-affairs/presentation-of-poldep-d.html>

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